

1                   **VI. CLAIMS**

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3                   What is claimed is:

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5                   1. A hull for a high speed boat having generally a V-shape,  
6 comprising at least one pair of strakes longitudinally running along the  
7 entire length of said hull from a common point at the aft end of said hull  
8 and said strakes of each pair separating from each other as they extend  
9 towards the fore portion of the hull, said strakes having a cross-section that  
10 includes a fin member with a distal end that extends downwardly from  
11 said hull, said fin member having a substantially triangular shape with an  
12 outer side that is longer than an inner side to permit said distal end to  
13 extend substantially vertically inside a body of water and said cross-section  
14 further includes a flat horizontal section adjacent to said inner side so that  
15 running and idle stability can be achieved.

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17                   2. The hull set forth in claim 1 wherein said hull includes at least  
18 one step with a drop off wall and having a projected V-shape pointing to  
19 the front of said boat and having two distal ends that allow air in as the  
20 boat moves thereby forming an air cushion tending to lift said hull.

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22                   3. The hull set forth in claim 2 wherein said at least one step  
23 includes step includes a longitudinal channel running adjacent to said drop  
24 off wall and having a predetermined width so that a portion of the air  
25 through said distal ends is trapped therein.

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1       4.    The hull set forth in claim 3 further including a peripheral chine  
2    having a substantially triangular cross-section that extends vertically and  
3    downwardly inside a body of water over which said boat floats.

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5       5.    A hull for a high speed boat having at least one step with a  
6    drop off wall and having a projected V-shape pointing to the front of said  
7    boat and having two distal ends that allow air in as the boat moves thereby  
8    forming an air cushion tending to lift said hull.

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10      6.    The hull set forth in claim 5 wherein said at least one step  
11    includes a longitudinal channel running adjacent to said drop off wall and  
12    having a predetermined width so that a portion of the air through said  
13    distal ends is trapped therein.

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15      7.    The hull set forth in claim 6 further including a peripheral chin  
16    having a cross-section with a substantially triangular shape that extends  
17    vertically and downwardly inside a body of water over which said boat  
18    floats.